



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**St Mary's Parish** — *Maungaturoto* — *Mangawhai* — *Wellsford*  
**Saturday Vigil MAUNGATUROTO** – Mass 4.00pm (1<sup>st</sup>& 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays – Liturgy of Word & Holy Communion: 4.00pm.  
**Sunday - MANGAWHAI:** Mass 8.30am (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays).  
 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Liturgy of Word Holy Communion: 8.30am.  
**WELLSFORD:** Mass 10.30am every Sunday  
 Tues 9.00am & Fri 11.30am Eucharistic Adoration Fri 10.45-11.20am

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (a) - Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026

Acts 6:1-7

Psalm 33:1-2,4-5,18-19

1 Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

### *'The Way' to the Father*

From within our ordinary round of life we dare to voice the WORD of GOD. And like Peter we stand in fear and trembling when the WORD opens access to the real power for life-giving, or sanctifying grace. We also sense fear and feel the need to suppress change.

Acts tells how the body of believers grew in number, and tensions between the old ways and the new began to affect the movement.

The way the community's resources were being managed brought matters to a head. The apostles publicly, *'put their weight behind'* or *'laid their hands on'* seven men. They were stand-ins for the apostles, to distribute food so the apostles could concentrate on prayer and preaching. In response to a growing community need, the apostles select and hand on responsibility to others for distributing food in the community. Among the seven was Stephen, the first martyr of the new movement.

The election of Stephen and others full of faith and the Holy Spirit is about the surprising and dangerous power of GOD's Spirit at work, bringing newness in society, through the actions of disciples who extend the work of Jesus.

The author (*1 Peter 2:4*) reminds the Christian community that although they are resident aliens in Asia Minor, Jesus was also rejected *'by the world'*.

But he was valued by GOD. Jesus is the centre and focus of their new lives. He is, *'a living stone'*.

Christians too are *'living stones'* built around *'the corner-stone'*, to be a building for Christ's use.

The Christian community, or church, exists because of GOD's unconditional, community-creating love. The church is called to live differently in the world: as chosen; royal; holy; and GOD's own. It is no casual or accidental gathering of people. Rather it is a special community based on different realities and called to different conduct. Belief is an active decision to live distinctively in the world and such living threatens to turn the world on its head.

Jesus says that if it was not necessary to think of another life in a survival after death, he would have been the first to tell us. When Thomas admits he doesn't know where Jesus is going, Jesus responds, *"I am the Way; I am Truth and Life"*. Jesus says that through him, disciples now know which is the place and what is the way to where he is going; he is THE WAY to GOD's household. It is the household of the unity of all, where all will live together and never die.

John says, *'No one has seen GOD'*. John meant that no one has seen GOD because GOD can't be seen. GOD doesn't exist as people imagine. GOD does exist but in another way. John adds, *"If we keep Jesus' commandments to love one another as GOD loved us, GOD exists in us"*. – BF

***If GOD loves us with all his being, then we too must love one another. We cannot love GOD whom we don't see without loving our brother & sister whom we do see.***

Pope Leo XIV APOSTOLIC LETTER IN UNITATE FIDEI

## **Whole Parish Mass and AGM**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday and there will be one Mass at Wellsford at 10.30am for the whole Parish to come together. Following Mass we will have our Annual General Meeting. Please consider being part of the Parish Pastoral Council. Your voice and ideas can make a difference.

## **Catholic Directory:**

The latest edition of the New Zealand Catholic Directory has just been published. It is the comprehensive record of the people and organisations in the Catholic Church in New Zealand. The print edition can be purchased for \$40, including GST and postage. Order your copy by emailing [directory@nzcbc.org.nz](mailto:directory@nzcbc.org.nz)

## **Charis NZ**

Is pleased to announce that **Chevalier Cyril John** will be leading a 1.5 day, hosted by Current of Grace, Auckland (part of Charis NZ). Cyril John is a well-known speaker and serves on the International Commission for Intercession and has spent more than a decade travelling the world, teaching, and forming intercessors in the ministry of Prophetic Intercession. Please share and encourage your prayer group and community group members, and wider networks to support this event: Auckland Diocese: **11 - 12 May 2026: Training on Prophetic Intercession by Chevalier Cyril John at Christ the King Church, Owairaka.** Poster with details is on the large table in the hall.

## **Webinar**

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College will hold its second webinar on the WYD2027 Webinar Series, titled “Courage: A call for young people to be bold and confident in their faith”, with Bishop Michael Gielen as speaker. This will be on Tuesday, **05 May 2026**, 5-6pm via Zoom. Find out more and register at [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026)

## **Rise up and Shine Festival**

At Malaeola Community Centre, 16 Waokauri Place, Mangere. Taste the World, Celebrate the Culture! **30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2026.** Starts at 10am with Thanksgiving Mass. Followed by Social Entertainment until 3pm. Music, Zumba, Food stalls and Cultural Show. Join us at the Migrant Chaplaincy Rise Up & Shine Festival, where every bite tells a story and every dance spark joy.

## **WYD**

**2027**

## **Webinars**

In preparation for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul Korea, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College invites young people and everyone to grow in their faith, hope and missionary discipleship, with this year’s webinar series, “Take Courage! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). More information at [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026)

## **CATHOLIC NEWS IN YOUR INBOX:**

What's happening in the Catholic Church in New Zealand?

What is Pope Leo doing and saying?

What are the big stories affecting people of faith in our country?

Get Catholic headlines delivered to your inbox each Tuesday and Friday.

Sign up today at:

<https://cathnewsnz.com/>

### **Rebuild My Church - Dr Mary Healy**

Join internationally renowned Catholic theologian Dr Mary Healy this June in Hamilton for Rebuild My Church, a three-night formation series at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Hamilton (June 9–11).

Known around the world for her engaging teaching on Scripture and the Holy Spirit, Dr Healy helps people hear God's voice more clearly and grow in confidence in the gifts He gives for the building up of the Church.

Everyone is warmly invited to the three-night series (June 9–11) exploring the power of God's Word, the life of the Holy Spirit, and our call to live our faith today.

Alongside the evening mission there will also be: • A clergy workshop – Awakening the Gifts of the Faithful (Wednesday 10 June) • A leadership formation day for clergy, diocesan staff, and parish leaders (Thursday 11 June)

This is a wonderful opportunity for clergy, parish leaders, and anyone seeking to deepen their faith and grow in service to the Church.

All are warmly invited. [Full details and registration are available here](#)

### **The Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship**

ALL MEN are invited to the Joshua 40-Year Celebration Weekend!

When: Fri pm 14 August to Sun midday 16 August

Venue: Keswick Christian Camp, 5 Cooper Ave, Holden's Bay, Rotorua

Keynote Speaker: Robert Falzon, Leader of Australia's menALIVE and Author of "Importance of a Present Dad". Cost: \$247pp including accommodation and meals.

To Register: Follow the link below OR Scan the QR Code on porter attached OR contact Mike Lobo (021) 2809285 or Greg Sullivan (021) 437747 Link:

<https://menforchrist.wufoo.com/forms/joshua-40th-anniversary-celebration-rotorua>

#### **Wellsford Roster**

	<b>Sunday 3 May</b>	<b>Sunday 10 May</b>	<b>Sunday 17 May</b>
<i>Min/s of Word</i>	1. Sam Wilkin 2. Ken Hancock	1. Bob Schimanski 2. Monica Pride	1. Ken Hancock 2. Maggie Kane
<i>Intercessions</i>	Ken	Monica	Ken
<i>Minister of Eucharist</i>	Uraura Unaia	Alex Dublao	Eranga Amarasekara
<i>Morning Tea</i>	Liz Emmerson	Gay Pride	Marie Rambaud
<i>Church Cleaning Leader</i>	Marie	Monica Pride Ken	Monica

## Prayer intentions for the week

### **That everyone might have food**

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

### **Prayers for our Sick:**

*Matteo Gray, Petronella Brom, Geraldine Choromanski, Veronica Grigg, Theresa & Barry McCarthy, Chris Ohlson, Rosilene Finnegan, Richard McGrane (SA) Nanette Matheson, Michael O'Neil, Noreen Anderson, Liz Saunders, . . .*

*Bill Lewis, Adolph Layec, Matthew Gould, Christine McHugh, Jenny McKinnon, . . . . .*

*Margaret Pride, Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Wilma Jansen, Loris Prictor, Gerry Kok, Jill Grace, Caroline Milner, Lagi Sands, Teresa Graham, . . . . .*

### **Prayers for the Dead:**

For *Karl Freeze (Hokianga), Michael Drum, . . .* who died recently; *For the dead in the world's conflict zones*, And for our dead whose anniversaries occur around this time: 1. *Maria Kok (29<sup>th</sup>), Beatrice Jackson (5<sup>th</sup>), Brian Marquis (6<sup>th</sup>), Jim Snoswell (8<sup>th</sup>), Paddy Izard (9<sup>th</sup>).*

## Readings: 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

### **Monday 4 May**

Acts 14:5-18 Ps.115  
John 14:21-26

### **Tuesday 5 May**

Acts 14:19-28 Ps.145  
John 4:27-31

### **Wednesday 6 May**

Acts 15:1-6 Ps.122  
John 15:1-8

### **Thursday 7 May**

Acts 15:7-21 Ps.96  
John 15:9-11

### **Friday 8 May**

Acts 15:22-31 Ps.57  
John 15:12-17

### **Saturday 9 May**

Acts 16:1-10 Ps.100  
John 15:18-21

### **Sunday 10 May 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

1. Acts 8:5-8,14-17 Ps.66  
2. 1Peter 3:15-18  
Gospel: John 14:15-21

## **St Mary's Parish**

### ***Mangawhai - Maungaturoto – Wellsford***

Pastoral Council Chairperson: John Brockliss ph: 027 543 0856

Parish Co-ordinator: Jenni Woodside ph: 021 774 563

Priest Administrator: Fr. Bill Fletcher ph: 027 950 3885

Newsletter Editor: Marie Rambaud ph: 09 423 8907 / 021 054 4772

email: [rambaud.family@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rambaud.family@xtra.co.nz)

Parish Web address: [wellsfordcatholic.org.nz](http://wellsfordcatholic.org.nz)

BNZ account 02-0108-0707411-00

### **Reconciliations:**

**Wellsford: Sat. 8.30 – 8.55am Maungaturoto: Sat. 3.30 – 3.55pm.**

**Mangawhai: Sun: 8.00 – 8.25am**